

MINUTES

APACHE COUNTY COUNTYWIDE TRAIL STEERING COMMITTEE "CROOKED NAIL TRAIL"

Wednesday May 10, 2017 – 1:00 P.M.
Eagar Town Hall Community Room
22 West 2nd Street, Eagar, AZ

- 1. WELCOME AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** DEBRA SEELEY WELCOMED ALL AND CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS-**THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE ATTENDED THE MEETING
JACKIE THOMAS-ARIZONA STATE LAND DEPARTMENT
MATT BEHREND-ARIZONA STATE LAND DEPARTMENT
ANNIE LUTZ-SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
BEN DUGDALE-APACHE COUNTY
DEBRA SEELEY-TOWN OF EAGAR
RON SHEPHERD-TOWN OF EAGAR
ELECIA HENDERSON-TOWN OF EAGAR
DAVE SWIETANSKI-APACHE COUNTY
ADAM MILNER-NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
JEREMIAH LOYD-TOWN OF EAGAR
CHRIS CHISEL-TOWN OF SPRINGERVILLE (TELEPHONIC PRESENCE)
JESSEE RECCK-AZCC
- 3. OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC-**THERE WAS NO REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC
- 4. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. APRIL MINUTES- BEN DUGDALE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS WRITTEN, DAVE SWIETANSKI SECONDED, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5-0.
 - B. PROJECT SUMMARY-ADAM MILNER SUMMARIZED THE PROJECT TO DATE,
 - WE BECAME AWARE THAT THIS COMMITTEE WAS SUBJECT TO OPEN MEETING LAWS AND BECAUSE OF THAT A CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIR WAS ELECTED, THE VOTING MEMBER WERE IDENTIFICE AND MINUTES AND AGENDAS BECAME POSTED.
 - A \$300,000.00 OHV GRANT WAS AWARDED IN JANUARY
 - AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION A VIABLE ROUTE HAS BEEN LOOKED INTO THAT WOULD INCLUDE A NORTHERN LOOP AND A SOUTHERN LOOP THAT WOULD CONNECT INTO THE EXISTING SAFFEL CANYON OHV TRAIL.
 - THERE IS A SEPTEMBER DEADLINE TO BEGIN SPENDING SOME OF THE MONEY
 - C. IGA-THERE HAS BEEN NO NEW MOVEMENT ON THE IGA SINCE APACHE COUNTY HAS DECIDED TO ABSORB ST. JOHN'S PORTION OF THE IN KIND MATCH. THE IGA'S WILL NEED TO GO BACK TO EACH CUNCIL TO REFLECT THIS. IT IS THE ATTITUDE OF THE COMMITTEE THAT THE ST. JOHN'S REPRESENTATIVE REMAIN ON THE COMMITTEE FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE PHASES THAT WOULD INCLUDE ST. JOHNS.
 - D. COMMITMENTS
 1. CULTURAL CLEARANCES/RFP-THERE WAS NO FEED BACK ON THE ORIGINAL RFP, THE FEELING WAS BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PROPOSED ROUTE DETERMINED. A NEW RFP WAS POSTED ASKING FOR A CLASS 1 CULTURAL CLEARANCE FIRST, THEN A CLASS 3. IT WAS THE FEELING OF THE COMMITTEE, THAT A PROPOSED MAP BE SUBMITTED TO GET THE CULTURAL CLEARANCES STARTED. THE COMMITTEE WANTED TO KNOW IF THE CULTURAL CLEARANCE COULD BE PAID IN PORTIONS TO GET THE SPENDING

PROCESS STARTED. ANNIE LUTZ SAID HER COMPANY HAS DONE THAT BEFORE. THE GENERAL FEELING WAS THERE WILL BE A BID ON THE NEW RFP, THEREFORE THINGS CAN BEGIN TO MOVE FORWARD.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. REPORT FROM BOOTS ON THE GROUND RIDE OF PROPOSED TRAIL- DAVE SWIETENSKI EXPLAINED THE ROUTE TAKEN. IT WAS MAINLY SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 60, BUT THEY DID CROSS THE 60 AND WENT NORTH A WAYS, THERE IS A MEANS OF CROSSING THE 60 SAFELY. THEY ENCOUNTERED 3 LOCKED GATES ON THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE TRAIL NEAR SIPES'. GAME AND FISH OPENED ONE AND MEL SWEIGART HAD THE FOREST SERVICE KEY TO OPEN THE ANOTHER. IT WAS SUGGESTED DURING THE RIDE THE FOREST SERVICE MOVE ONE OF THE GATES TO THE SOUTH. THE GATES ALL SEEM TO BE SEASONAL CLOSURES FROM JANUARY 1 TO MAY 31ST. THE COUNTY VOLUNTEERED TO MOVE THE GATE AS PART OF THEIR INKIND MATCH AS WELL AS LOOKING INTO THE FOREST SERVICE CONCERS OF MAINTAINING THE ROAD PORTION OF THE FOREST SERVICE ROAD AFTER SNOW STORMS. THE GRANT DOES HAVE ROOM FOR REPLACING GATES WITH CATTLE GUARDS IF NEEDED. THERE WAS SOME CONCERN ABOUT RIGHT-OF-WAYS FOR SOME OF THE TWO TRACKS AND FOR THE RANCH RIGHT-OF-WAYS, HOWEVER, THE CULTURAL CLEARANCE WILL COVER BOTH ISSUES. THE COUNTY ALSO OFFERED TO DO THE INITIAL MAINTENANCE ON THE TRAIL, BUT IT IS THE VISION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR OHV GROUPS TO DO THE PERPETUAL MAINTENANCE. THERE WAS A LENGTHY DISCUSSION BY JACKIE THOMAS FROM THE ASLD ABOUT THE RANCHERS' CONCERNS. THE MAIN CONCERNS BY THE RANCHERS WERE:
- GATES LEFT OPEN OR CLOSED
 - DESTRUCTION OF RESOURCES
 - CATTLE BEING CHASED
 - CATTLE BEING SHOT
 - CALVING COWS BEING DISTURBED
 - LITTER
- THE COMMITTEE ASKED JACKIE THOMAS WHAT WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO APPROACH THE RANCHERS. JACKIE THOMAS SAID SHE WOULD TALK TO ASLD AND GET BACK TO THE COMMITTEE ON THAT. THE RIGHT OF WAY APPLICATION WILL BE A FORMAL CONTACT. HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE FELT A PREMPTIVE CONTACT MIGHT BE A BETTER APPROACH. JACKIE THOMAS SAID SHE WOULD CHECK WITH HER BOSS AND GET BACK TO THE COMMITTEE.
- B. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED TRAIL-BEN DUGDALE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MAPPED ROUTE EXCEPT FOR THE DOTTED LINE AND ANYPLACE THE ROUTE CAME ONTO PRIVATE LAND AND ADDITIONALLY AN ADJUSTMENT AREA TO STAY ON PUBLIC LAND. DAVE SWIETANSKI SECONDED, MOTION CARRIED 4-1 (CHRIS CHISEL LEFT PRIOR TO THE VOTE)
- C. INPUT FROM FOREST SERVICE AND NRCD ON TRAIL LOCATION.-THIS ITEM WAS TABLED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING AS THE FOREST SERVICE WAS NOT PRESENT. JEREMIAH LOYD WILL SEND THEM THE MAP OF THE PROPOSED TRAIL.
- D. DISCUSSION OF ADAM MILNOR'S FUTURE INVOLVMENT-ADAM MILNOR'S ALLOTTED TIME IS ALMOST OVER. HE WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED BUT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TRAVEL HERE FOR THE MEETINGS. HE MAY STILL BE AVAILABLE BY PHONE.
- E. PUBLIC OUTREACH-IT WAS SUGGESTED THE TRAIL BE PUT ON THE NRCS AGENDA FOR THE JUNE 20TH MEETING. IT WAS SUGGESTED TO PUT THE MAP IN THE PAPER WITH THE MEETING DATE. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT A PRESENTATION BE MADE TO EACH OF THE COUNCILS AT A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, MEETING. BEN DUGDALE AND DAVE SWIETANSKI WOULD PRESENT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. ADAM WILL WORK ON A PAMPHLET AND MAP, JEREMIAH WILL CALL CHRIS FOR HER COUNCIL MEETING.
- F. REPORTS-NO REPORTS

6. ADJOURNMENT-ADJOURNMENT WAS AT 3:59 PM